

THE MCGILL DAILY

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1994

McGill bureaucracy drags its heels on recycling program at Solin Hall

FORCED TO TRASH PAPER

By AGATA DE SANTIS

Students who live in Solin Hall want to expand their recycling program, but administrative delays have been frustrating their efforts. In the past five weeks, Nancy Odeh, Solin's environmental representative, has left multiple, unreturned messages for Carmen Spataro, the Manager of Building Services at McGill.

Over 270 McGill students reside in Solin Hall, the off-campus student residence near Lionel-Groulx metro. The environmental committee of the residence is trying to start a paper recycling program, but they are still waiting for McGill to provide them with the necessary equipment.

Odeh brought up the idea for the program at a committee meeting in early October. Odeh said she is interested in setting up a paper pick-up service with a garbage contractor.

Right now, the residence has three recycling barrels — for metal, plastics and glass. There are, however, no bins for paper recycling set up anywhere near the residence.

Spataro is responsible for waste management at the university and its residences. According to Odeh, when he was first approached about the idea, he "actually insisted that there should be some sort of paper recycling, which excited us because the paper used by students is so abundant, but it never came through."

The idea is for the university to deliver collection bins to the residence and set up the contracts for pick-up of paper recyclables. The environmental committee would be responsible for making sure everything functioned properly once set up.

Odeh explained that, at their first meeting, Spataro was very enthusiastic about the program and was willing to help them. "He said that it was a very good idea and that anything is possible. He had already set up certain paper recycling in other residences."

After waiting for Spataro to act, Odeh went to see him a second time. According to Odeh, this time he told her that he had many other projects to oversee and would contact her about the program later.

Odeh noted that Spataro never made the reasons for the delays clear to her. She commented, "Spataro's my link and [he's] not getting me anywhere."

Spataro claimed there are delays simply because he is waiting for the recycling bins to arrive from Toronto. He said the bins "should be arriving within the week."

Odeh reacted with surprise to Spataro's response, saying, "I don't understand why Mr. Spataro has not kept in contact with me on the situation... He had assured me that he would contact me as soon as possible with any news."

Odeh added that, since their last meeting five weeks ago, she has called Spataro many times and has left messages, but that he has not returned her calls.

Spataro asserted, "I did not feel it was necessary to return her calls because I don't have the material." He added that he will contact Odeh as soon as McGill receives the recycling containers.

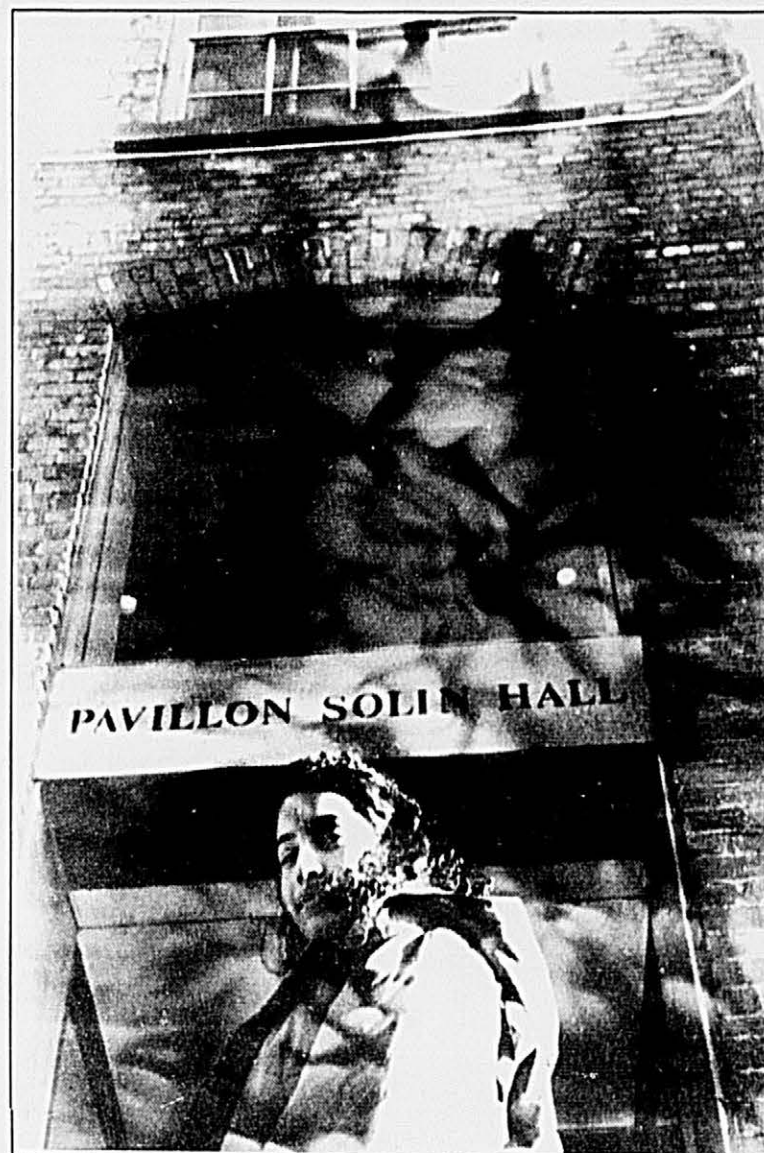
Odeh said the installation of the paper recycling program is not the

only delay that the Solin environmental committee has encountered. "It's very hard to get things passed through," she noted.

Odeh explained that the committee also wants to replace the incandescent light bulbs in the residence with more efficient fluorescent bulbs, but the administration said that the idea needed to be studied. Odeh commented that they did not expect all these delays, considering Spataro's apparent enthusiasm.

Spataro noted that it is in the school's best interest to encourage students to recycle as much as possible. "The more we recycle the less we pay for garbage," he explained.

Odeh said she is still skeptical about Spataro's assurances. She added that she is hopeful that sooner or later Solin Hall will have its paper recycling program.



DAILY PHOTO BY LUCY ATKINSON

WHAT, THEY THINK STUDENTS DON'T USE PAPER? McGill's Solin Hall residence has recycling bins for glass, metal and plastic, but not for the pulpy stuff we use most.

Farmworkers, fruit, and Proposition 187

California threatens "illegal" immigrants' access to schooling, health care, jobs

By MAIJA MARTIN

Each year, hundreds of thousands of migrant farmworkers perform approximately four billion hours of farm labour in the US. In 1993, the average hourly wage for a seasonal American farmworker was \$5 an hour. In that same year, almost 50 per cent of non-landowning farmworkers lived below the poverty line. This figure increased to 62 per cent for farm workers born outside the US.

Over half of the fruits and vegetables eaten during the winter months in Canada are imported from the US; 60 per cent alone from California. Illegal immigrants, making up the majority of produce harvesters in California, may soon be denied access even to their hazardous and low-paying jobs as seasonal labourers.

Due to the voters' approval of Proposition 187 — intended to cut down on the number of illegal immigrants living in California — it

now seems that illegal immigrants may not be welcome in the state, even as a form of cheap labour.

A change of heart

In 1951, the US passed Public Law 78, known as the Bracero Program, by which 500,000 Mexican workers were temporarily imported to deal with labour shortages caused by the Korean War. The law was renewed biannually into the '60s. Mexican immigrants were preferred by growers over American migrant workers, as they were said to be more "docile". By 1983, Mexican workers made up 90 per cent of seasonal farm labourers in California.

The most recent wave of immigrants to California farms have been non-Spanish speaking Mixtec Indians from the Mexican state of Oaxaca. Due to the language barrier, Mixtec Indians have been slotted into the lowest rungs of the California labour market.

Due to economic difficulties, California state representatives have

since revoked their open invitation to illegal immigrants. Last Tuesday, California residents approved Proposition 187, a law designated to deny illegal immigrants access to non-emergency medical care, education, and other state services. Under this law, officials such as doctors and teachers would be required to report clients they suspected to be non-documented residents. Beginning in 1996, children born in the US of illegal immigrant parents will be refused entry into public schools.

According to Andrea De Urquiza from the Farm Labour Organizing Committee (FLOC), "335,000 children will be affected by Proposition 187, not including immigrants trying to enter community colleges and universities."

Intended to cut down on the influx of immigrants into California, the Proposition would also include stricter patrolling of the state's borders, and mandatory passcards for illegal immigrants.

Several weeks ago, 70,000 people protested against 187 in the streets of downtown Los Angeles. After its approval, police in riot gear patrolled the State Office building as protesters carried banners reading "187 equals racism, Nazism and xenophobia". Wednesday afternoon, activists from Hispanic, Asian-American and farmworkers groups such as the United Farm Workers (UFW) joined forces and won restraining orders on 187.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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COMMENT

America is not a democracy

Only money has a vote

As an American, I dutifully did my part and sent in my absentee ballot for the US elections a few weeks ago. Unfortunately, none of the candidates I voted for were elected.

I voted for Democrats, even though I don't agree with much of what members of that party have done. I guess I look at the Democratic party as a sort of compromise — something to hold your nose and vote for to fend off the greater evil. Unfortunately, the compromise failed, and the evil Republicans are in control of America's legislative bodies. Media commentators have said that this election represents some sort of new political revolution. If this was supposed to be a revolution, it was misdirected.

For several years now, American political campaigners have made a game of trying to appear as outsiders in American politics. People are frustrated with "politics as usual" and they want a change. This attitude is manifested in reactionary voting and, more importantly, in the lack of voter turnout.

The problem is, neither the Republicans nor the Democrats represent a solution to the problems of American politics. Rather, they are part of the system which perpetuates these problems. There is one independent member of Congress. The rest belong to one of these two parties.

The Republican party has a more coherent position. They represent conservative values. The Democrats, on the other hand, represent an extremely wide range of views which revolve, more or less, around the "center". Nowhere in the two parties is the agenda of the Left represented. One of the main reasons for this is money politics.

The nature of this system is such that, in order to get elected, politicians have to spend outrageous amounts of money. This forces them to beg for money from those who have it — generally people who represent conservative interests. These benefactors are not going to give to politicians who do not represent their interests. Therefore, truly liberal politicians can never hope to raise the funds necessary to vie for a major office.

This means that the Federal elections are less and less important to those who are using other means to achieve their goals. To these people, voting seems to be a waste of time, or worse, a legitimization of a political system which doesn't include them. Besides, voting for the lesser of two evils gets more and more discouraging.

Some might argue that, if these people voted, politicians would be forced to pay more attention to their concerns. But, as I have already explained, the nature of the system is such that politicians cannot afford to renounce conservative values.

If American politics is to be truly democratic, it is going to have to find a way to involve the disenfranchised voices. There is no easy way to do this. One possible starting point would be to change the electoral system from "first past the post — winner take all" to proportional representation. In the latter system, parties which receive many votes in an election, but do not win constituencies outright, are allotted seats according to the percentage of votes mustered.

Other essential changes include limits on campaign contributions and spending. One drastic solution might be to give each citizen five votes to distribute among candidates as they wish. Assuming those with specific interests concentrated their votes, this would allow more representation in the system.

The system in the US cannot remain as it is now. The inevitable result of this system is a tendency towards the right in American politics and increasingly low voter turnout, as people feel disenfranchised by the exclusionary two-party system. Without wider participation and representation in the system, the US cannot rightly call itself a democracy.

Aubrey Cohen



LETTERS

Burma and Board of Education

To the Daily,

I am very glad to see the *Daily* giving some coverage to the situation in Burma and PepsiCo's role in that devastated land (November 23). Canadians may also be interested to know that their largest city's public school board, the Toronto Board of Education, has an important feature in common with the SLORC, the murderous kleptocracy with which Burma is afflicted; PepsiCo is a corporate sponsor of both. The operations of PepsiCo are truly global in scale. As well as bolstering the Burmese dictatorship, it is playing a pioneering role in the privatization of public education in Canada.

The people of Burma need relief from their torturers. We, on the other hand, do not need PIZZA HUT's pizzas. Nor do we need PEPSI, CRUSH, HIRES ROOT BEER, FRITOS, RUFFLES, DORITOS, or KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN. There is no great sacrifice involved in boycotting those blood-soaked PepsiCo products—in fact we would be considerably healthier without them. Remember that when we buy any of them, we are subsidizing something far worse than just the privatization of our schools—and that alone is reason enough to boycott. For details on Pepsi's role in public education, call the Toronto Board of Education at (416) 397-3060 or fax (416) 397-3114. You might also want to ask the McGill administration why those products are allowed on campus.

Mark Marshall

Come to Council

To the Daily,

I am sorry that my previous response on the issue of FEUQ apparently was unsatisfactory to Arnold Kwok. I would, however, like to reiterate that no decisions about full membership in FEUQ will (or can) be made without the support of the student body through a referendum. I would be glad to discuss my reasons for working with FEUQ with anyone who is interested, and hope that over the next few months, we will all learn enough to make educated decisions whichever way we vote next year.

Concerning the Ottawa demonstration against Lloyd Axworthy's proposed social reforms, I think that two basic points should be considered:

First, only a handful of protesters out of a crowd of over 10,000 students threw "edible projectiles" (as one newspaper termed them) at the man who

wants our tuition fees to double. To my knowledge, none of these students were from McGill. Overall, the demonstration succeeded in rallying students and bringing media attention to dissatisfaction with the proposed reforms.

Second, SSMU is not advocating a platform which consists only of such protest. Over the past few weeks, the External Affairs Committee has written a discussion paper proposing alternatives to the reforms, the VP External Nick Benedict and I have spoken with members of Axworthy's office and the standing committee, and Nick has met with the minister to discuss our suggestions and concerns. We are working from a variety of angles to make our voices heard on external student issues, as is our responsibility, and any input on other ways of responding to the reforms is more than welcome.

I encourage Arnold and anyone else who is concerned about these or other issues to bring their questions and comments to Thursday's council meeting.

Lisa Grushcow

Chair, External Affairs Committee
Arts Representative to Council

Myopic and sensationalist

To the Daily,

On Nov. 21, the *McGill Daily* reached the nadir in its long history of Israel-bashing with its story on the Israeli-South African arms trade. First, South Africa's new Defense Minister Joe Modise is quoted as saying that Israel was "the biggest buster of the sanctions" against South Africa. Then the reader is subjected to a tiring list of Israeli misdeeds. Finally, the article concludes with the bizarre warning that the ANC should be wary of future Israeli machinations.

Granted, the issue of sanction-violators is important, but nevertheless, the article was both myopic and sensationalist. Of all the countries that dealt with South Africa, Israel was singled out and blamed collectively for the sins of previous administrations. Furthermore, the article fails to substantiate the Defense Minister's accusation!

In spite of lurid details about this weapon system or that one, the article never proves that Israel was a major dealer with Pretoria. In fact, there is no comparative analysis at all. Obviously, the editors of the *McGill Daily* want the reader to take these statements based on faith.

As it turns out, Alan Dershowitz, in his book *Chutzpah*, proves Modise wrong. The Harvard law professor

writes that "South Africa's major commercial partners include the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Japan, and the Soviet Union" (243). A small-fry in comparison, Israel represented less than one per cent of Pretoria's trade.

Fortunately, if the *Daily* is still looking for villains, it won't have to leave the Mideast. Countries like Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates had been the main suppliers of petroleum to the South African military, maintaining the apartheid regime. The illegal trade was quite lucrative for these OPEC nations as they grossed over \$10 billion from oil exports.

What a story this could make! But, then again, attacking Israel is a lot more fun.

Erik Schechter
U2 Arts

United Zionist Council

Parizeau photo disgusting

To the Daily,

The photograph of Québec Prime Minister Jacques Parizeau you printed on the last page of your November 23 issue was nothing short of disgusting. I can understand that the issue of Québec sovereignty is presented in the *Daily* from an anglophone point of view, but I at least expected that your staff would have enough maturity and objectivity to not make a farce out of their paper. I guess I expected too much. This is a joke! Purposeful and malicious distortion of Mr. Parizeau's picture was deplorable and absolutely uncalled for. I do not write this as a Québécois, but rather as a disturbed everyday citizen. I am not one to set double standards — if you published an article on the Persian Gulf War and printed a similar photograph of Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein, it would be equally as obnoxious. Likewise, I would not condone a francophone publication's misrepresentation of Bob Rae or Jean Chrétien. Clear and unbiased documentation of the facts and issues at hand is the key to serious reporting. Obviously, you guys don't expect to be taken seriously. Your decision to deface Parizeau is just plain unprofessional and I hope that the *Daily* is recognized on campus for the low-class rag that it is, for there is only one place for this type of journalism—the trash.

David Kindschi
U1 Management

Ed note: Please put the *Daily* in one of the recycling bins.

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THE MCGILL DAILY

tuesday night café theatre

group makes good on *Betrayal*

BY RYAN FITZGERALD

Decades before Newt and Preston had appropriated the tired "decline in western morality" theme as part of their revision of contemporary culture, London's West End had institutionalized it—making it an essential element of theatre's "new Realism." At the vanguard of this movement was Harold Pinter, a screenwriter whose work often dwelled on the consequences of emotional abeyance and the moral compromises which we allow to slide into everyday life.

Betrayal, the latest instalment in this season of McGill's Tuesday Night Café Theatre, neither preaches with any idealistic virtues, nor indicts people for making transgressions. Distanced and detached from the consequences of their moral actions, the characters are portrayed as victims of their actions, and these moral and emotional dilemmas thrive on the irrational personal decisions of themselves and those around them.

Pinter's story comes to life with three bare sets and four players. The play progresses through nine well paced scenes, each taking place about a year before the last. This retrospective style is wonderful, with each scene undoing some of the truths and revelations of the previous one, and offers alternate accounts of events as they unfold before the audience.

Making *Betrayal* appealing on stage requires presence and animation of a limited sort; it is not the stuff of heart-quickenning drama or heroics. Long pauses in dialogue and protracted emotional responses force characters to flesh out their parts with other

devices. Fortunately, the cast of Tuesday Night Café Theatre were up to the challenge.

Performing on a minimal set in Morrice Hall, the story begins with Emma (Sarah Marsh), a gallery director in London, revealing to Jerry (Matthew Macfadyen) that she is to divorce her husband Robert (Gabriel Levine) after having confessed to adultery. In this initial epilogue Emma admits to have had a torrid affair many years ago with Jerry, her husband's close friend and Cambridge-educated counterpart in the clubby publishing world.

But as the story unfolds, we learn that this confession actually occurred four years earlier. Even later we learn that the confession was simply an affirmation of Robert's accusation. Such are the tangled webs woven in *Betrayal*.

The show derives most of its energy from the performances of Matthew Macfadyen (as Jerry) and Gabriel Levine (as Robert), manifesting the gradual calcification of emotions which allow men to deny the lingering anger caused by betrayal. Their relationship is neither a confrontational nor antagonistic, rather an imperfect concert of intentions, well communicated on stage and truly believable.

Emma is the quintessential Sloan Ranger, living in the rarefied atmosphere of England's cultural elite, while being objectified by the men in her life. But her character comes across as slightly restrained, and conveys none of the passion that forces irrationality into the fore of our lives. This makes the turn of events seem more lifeless than they need to be and robs some of the dialogue of an emotional dynamic.

But the play never slows to a drag and the

quick succession of scenes keeps it from drifting where others would. Director Lori Delorme has to be commended for excellent casting as the actors fit their characters perfectly. Erica Gunn also deserves praise for her dialect coaching; the characters came off as if they were born with Oxfordian pitches and guttural English jaws. These "authentic" accents are appropriate to England's class-conscious culture, and contributed greatly to the

play. Pinter depends quite heavily on dialogue to create relationships of power and personality conflicts, making character intonation all the more vital.

Betrayal is a draining story of the steps we take to paint in the empty walls of our lives, and the cast does right by Pinter. The actors and actresses demonstrate an emptiness through a pained series of revelations, an emptiness which is so much of our own creation.

Divided We Stand

Play highlights immigrant children in Canada

BY HUGH HOLMES

Divided We Stand is a poignantly humorous play about the plight facing the children of immigrants to Canada. Produced by Teesri Duniya, a local multicultural organization which is committed to producing theatre that examines current social issues so as to cut through cultural and racial barriers, the show is currently playing at the Strathearn Centre.

Written by local playwright Pan Bouyoucas, the play expresses its message through a series of short vignettes. Although it focuses on children of immigrants, along the way, the play also touches on the issues of domestic violence, the ongoing language debate, interracial marriage, the sacrifice of lifestyle for one's children; and the central question of whether to integrate into "Canadian" society or stay in "ethnic ghettos" with people of your own culture.

The acting throughout is superb, with the performers switching accents and personas flawlessly at the drop of a hat. One high point was the opening skit, in which two first graders, one Anglophone and one Francophone, fight over which language to sing the national anthem in. Another highlight is a scene in which a son begs his Hindu family not to go to A&W, lest his white girlfriend see him with his "strange family". Finally, the ongoing series of "Words You'll Never Hear in an Ethnic Home" adds a note of hilarity to scene changes.

However, what makes this production truly wonderful is the manner in which the issues are presented. Too often, dialogue becomes submerged in a sea of rhetoric and political correctness. It is refreshing to see issues treated in a humorous light, which still manages to address the real questions at hand. Some of the portrayals are so over the top that it can't help but make us look at our own stereotypes, and see how truly foolish they are.

However, although light-hearted in man-

ner, the play still manages to deal with the issues in a thoughtful way. It never actually resolves any questions; instead it presents both sides of the argument to provoke thought. Most importantly, *Divided We Stand* engages the audience in a manner that is both entertaining and provocative.

Teesri Duniya ("Third World") was founded in 1981 in a local church basement. It was initially intended as a vehicle for plays

written in Hindi. With no fewer than 19 productions under its belt, the group has evolved into something much more than its original goal.

Producing theatre in

both English and French, it has rapidly expanded to become the culturally inclusive organization that it is today. This has, in large part, been due to its policy of colour-blind casting. With this policy, the performers and audience bypass the visual impression of the character, going beyond simple stereotypes.

Teesri Duniya have been helped in large part by a grant from the federal Ministry of Multiculturalism, which makes the organization of workshops possible. In turn, this has allowed the performers to better develop their skills and to convey their message more clearly.

Divided We Stand is playing at the Strathearn Centre, 3680 rue Jeanne Mance Tuesday through Sunday until December 11. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$12 for the general public. For reservations and more information, call 848-0238.



Macfadyen and Marsh: 2 corners of a torrid triangle

THE WRATH OF GRAPES:

**farmworkers
and pesticides**

ONE OF THE MAJOR health risks faced by a seasonal fruit worker is exposure to pesticides. Between 3.2 and 4 million farmworkers and their families are exposed to pesticides annually. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the occupational use of pesticides results in 300,000 illnesses and injuries per year.

Approximately one third of the pesticides used are known to cause cancer, a common cause of death for farmworkers. Farmworkers often suffer from head and stomach aches, rashes, and burns. Forced to live near to fields, the workers often only have access to contaminated water used for drinking, bathing, and cooking.

Exposure to pesticides has had an extremely harmful effect on farmworkers of all ages, including children. According to a 1989 study in two towns of California's San Joaquin Valley, children contracted cancer at a rate 900 per cent higher than the national average. In addition to this, children born to mothers who were exposed to pesticides on a regular basis showed a high rate of severe birth defects.

Children's exposure to pesticides while working in the fields is a problem not only confined to California farmworkers, as over 40 per cent of children on a Western New York farm were found to have been sprayed while working.

In 1983, the EPA recognized that its farmworker protection standards were inadequate with regards to health, and the standards were revised. However, since then, the standards have been found to still be insufficient. On April 21 1994, the EPA planned to implement stronger restrictions on the use of pesticides, but legislation was postponed until January 1995 due to pressure from the agribusiness sector.

PROPOSITION 187 GOES AGAINST A 1982 HIGH-COURT RULING THAT CHILDREN OF ILLEGAL

IMMIGRANTS CAN'T BE DENIED PUBLIC EDUCATION.

☆☆☆

story continued from page 1

That day, two judges (one state and one federal judge) ruled for the plaintiffs in separate lawsuits attempting to block enforcement of 187. One judge indicated that 187 goes against a 1982 high-court ruling that illegal immigrant children cannot be denied public education. Advocates of 187 have taken the

1982 ruling to the Supreme Court, trying to have it overturned.

Newly re-elected governor Pete Wilson is one of those currently backing 187, claiming it to be "an issue, not of race, but of fairness". However, the fact that Proposition 187 gains most of its support from whites, but is opposed by Hispanics, casts doubts

on this assertion, as votes were clearly cast along racial lines.

As illegal immigrants perform the bulk of farm labour in California, Wilson will be faced not only with protests from multi-ethnic organizations, but also with questions from farm owners of who will need to harvest their crops.



What
YOU
can do

Those concerned about the issue should contact these groups:

Food First, 398 60th St, Oakland CA 94618

United Farm Workers Union (UFW) 305-15 Gervais Drive, Don Mills ON, M3C 1Y8

Farm Labour Organizing Committee (FLOC) 507 S. St. Clair St, Toledo OH, 43602

Also, the UFW also has several free videos that can be ordered by contacting the Don Mills branch, including the film "No Grapes". The National Film Board of Canada also has films available.

Support farmworkers' right to unionize and oppose propositions such as 187. In June of this year, the UFW issued a complaint to the California Agricultural Labour Relations Board against Dole (producers of bananas, pineapples, canned fruit and juices) for illegally firing two workers and discriminating against workers involved in union activity. Dole has not yet responded, and can be contacted via **David Murdock, Chair & CEO, Dole Company, P.O. Box 5132, Westlake Village CA, 91359.**

Toronto Police troubled by hate groups

TORONTO (CUP) — There are nearly 200 hate groups operating in the Toronto area with up to 1,500 active members, Toronto police members told a conference on hate groups this week.

The organizational structure of hate groups has changed, becoming decentralized, regional and difficult to track, said detective sergeant Wayne Cotgreave of the intelligence unit.

"[The groups] don't have prominent leaderships. Now they have smaller cell-like off-shoots. It makes it difficult for anyone trying to determine what their actions are," he said.

Cotgreave's findings were announced as part of a day-long conference on the rise of international right-wing extremism in Toronto. The conference was organized by B'Nai Brith to announce the findings of its ongoing research project on the rise of racism in Europe and North

America. White supremacist groups have made an unprecedented effort to recruit young people by infiltrating high schools, Cotgreave said. They also have moved into the realm of hate music and comicbooks in an attempt to recruit young people.

Cotgreave said it is almost impossible to do anything about the distribution of racist music and literature.

"Unfortunately there is very little we can do. If they cross the boundary of hate propaganda they face prosecution, but they're usually quite careful," he said. "It is the attitudes being developed that concern us, because they might lead to actions down the road."

Toronto police are hoping to set up partnerships with other organizations and the government in order to deal with hate proactively, Cotgreave said. If the police don't join forces with civilian anti-racist groups, they will waste too much energy being reactive with hate

groups on the leading edge.

Aryan pride and extremism is on the rise in many nativist and right-wing groups in North America, said

of the Christian right, and an element within it that has a relationship with the extreme right," Scheinberg said this could have repercussions in Can-

tions has its headquarters."

A related threat is rising with radical anti-abortion and anti-gay movements moving north to Can-

"Most connections...are not from Germany to Canada. Most are from the U.S. to Canada." — *Concordia Professor Stephan Scheinberg*

Steven Scheinberg, a history professor at Concordia University.

"Anti-Semitism, nativism, racism and homophobia have mainstreamed and found elements in the Republican Party and the religious right," said Scheinberg. He linked this phenomenon to the recent swing towards the right in the U.S. mid-term elections.

"What we see is a rise of neo-isolationism and nationalism, the rise

ada because it is easy for hate groups to trade information and expertise across borders.

"Most connections, excluding [Holocaust denier Ernst] Zundel, are not from Germany to Canada," he said. "Most are from the U.S. to Canada. There are better connections, better communication. It's easy to get in a car and drive down to Hayden Lake, where the [right-wing extremist group] Aryan Na-

ada, he said, noting a connection between many radical anti-abortion groups and international neo-fascist groups in the U.S. and Europe. One such group, Human Life International, is planning to move north, according to Scheinberg.

"Human Life International plans to have a conclave in Montreal. They talk of Jewish abortionists and Jewish feminists [participating in] a holocaust against the unborn."



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Veda Hille is a person in your Folk music neighbourhood meets Jazz at the Yellow Door

BY PETER GRAEFE

Singer-songwriter Veda Hille brought talent with a touch of cynicism to Montréal on Saturday November 19. Before storming into a second set, Hille joked "I figured that I'd be a lot richer if I didn't know how to play my instrument" — making reference to the music currently popular in radioland. Nevertheless, the overflow crowd assembled at the Yellow Door seemed quite happy to have the poorer yet musically-inclined Hille playing for them.

The Vancouver-based musician started her performing career in a lounge act singing songs she did not like, and spent some time playing

accordion for a puppet-show. However, she seems to have finally found her niche as a singer-songwriter.

Grounded in a folk-pop base, what differentiates Hille in the folk music scene is her use of jazz styl-

not only with audience members, many of whom ended up sitting on the floor, but also with band members. Hille and her keyboard barely fit on stage with guitarist Stephen Nikleva, bassist Martin Walton and drummer Steve Lazin. At the same time, the cramped quarters and intimate venue allowed the band to play songs less suited to the larger clubs they have appeared in over the course of their current three-week tour of Southern Ontario.

Hille played a number of new

**Lines like, "And we all know
where to get the best cornbread in
town/Coming home I don't even
notice the condoms on the
ground" vividly portray the
coincidence of both warmth and
decay in impoverished East
Vancouver.**

ings, as well as a unique vision that comes through in her songwriting. Her strong piano playing and a rich dynamic voice have not hurt either. Saturday's concert was crowded

songs, including "One Hot Summer," in addition to selections from her 1991 *songs about PEOPLE AND BUILDINGS* and 1994 *path of a body* recordings. The crowd was obviously familiar with her work, singing along with Hille and requesting the "Neighbourhood Song."

"Neighbourhood Song" is a truly inspirational work, and it aptly demonstrates Hille's songwriting expertise. Lines like, "And we all know where to get the best cornbread in town/Coming home I don't even notice the condoms on the ground" vividly portray the coincidence of both warmth and decay in impoverished East Vancouver. Another high point of the show was "Conversation with the Dead," sung forcefully to the solitary beating of a hand drum.

Montréal-based singer-songwriter Trace Sitter opened the show for Hille. Sitter, who already has an established fan base in the city, could only have added to it with her performance. While her seven-song opening set ran a disappointingly short thirty-five minutes, it was plenty of time to show off some fine finger-picking and steel guitar playing. Sitter introduced "Amsterdam in June" as her cat's favourite song, and it certainly served as the high point of the set. A new song, "Courage Lead Me Home," was also very well received. While Hille is not expected back to Montréal before spring, it is consoling to know Sitter will be performing here in the interim.

If you are interested in Hille's music, you can write Ball of Flames Productions, 3126 W. 13th Ave., Vancouver, B.C., V6K 2V3.

The next concert in the Saturday series features the fine picking of Charlie Sohmer and Vince Halfhide on stage at the Yellow Door December 3rd.

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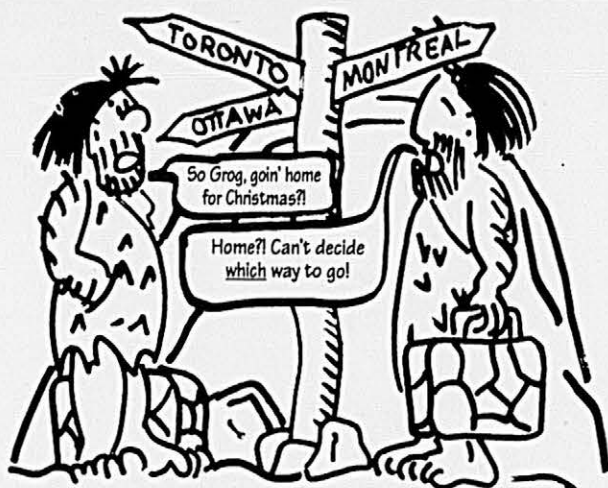
- 4-5 p.m. Tennis match featuring Montreal's own Martin Laurendeau, a former Canadian Davis Cup team member and ATP touring pro
- 5-6 p.m. Free Total Workout
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14 - NOTICES

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en's grp. Shatner 423. Fri. coming-out
5:30 & General 7PM, 3521 University.

Guilty until proven innocent?

Student senate reps unable to change Code of Conduct

BY MAX FRANCISCO

Imagine a room where you are required to argue with an army of academic staff and administrative bureaucrats. This is the position our student representatives to Senate were in at the November 23 Senate meeting. Up for discussion were the proposed amendments to the Code of Student Conduct of Disciplinary Procedures.

"We're not changing the meaning of anything [with these amendments]," said VP University Affairs Jen Small. "We're just making it a little more clear, a little easier to understand, and a little bit better for students to have to read and follow."

Not convinced that this was what would happen, the student reps made several suggestions to improve the proposed amendments in an attempt to make the Code more student-friendly. But they were unsuccessful.

Dean of Students Irwin Gopnik has said many times, "This is your Code." Yet, if it is our Code, the student reps to Senate wondered, why do so many students respond so strongly against it?

One section heavily debated at the meeting was that which stipulates that a student must prove a non-intent of plagiarism in the event that he or she is accused of it. Wong tried to put forth a motion which would soften the blow.

"The perception of a student upon reading this is very different from what it substantially represents," said Wong. "When a student picks this up he [sic] says, 'My God! It's already been presumed that I intended to deceive.'"

Gopnik, however, insisted that the wording of the document would not seem so strong if read in full. Consequently, Senate voted down Wong's suggested change in the phrasing of the section.

The second proposal made on behalf of students was made by Faculty of Law Student Senator Christoph Sicking. Sicking suggested that receipt of payment should not be grounds for plagiarism.

"Potentially, if you carefully read [the appropriate] section you will find that this will catch the people who are tutoring," said Sicking.

Wong elaborated on Sicking's point. "For example, a student is tutoring a fellow student in a computer program for their class," he explained, "Of course the student will be handing this work in. To me that sounds like a normal function of a tutor."

"I really can't imagine a case where an innocent tutor will be caught in this web," said Gopnik. "It just doesn't work out that way. No-one will ever bring a prosecution in the first place. It has to be quite blatant before it even gets

to anyone's attention, and then it goes through the disciplinary officer of that faculty."

Gopnik's statement, however, leaves much to the interpretation of the disciplinary officer or the members of the disciplinary hearing committee.

Previously, article 40 of the Code had stipulated that "illegally" obtained evidence may be

allowed into proceedings against a student. However, Gopnik and Small decided that an addition should be made to the code requiring that decisions on evidence be made "in good faith."

"The term 'in good faith' may be interpreted differently," said

Wong. "If we leave it to 'in good faith' we subject ourselves to a utilitarian interpretation."

Wong then proceeded to ask Gopnik, "Would it not be friendly to say 'or obtained in contravention to the policies and procedures set out by the university?'"

"I don't know these policies," was Gopnik's response.

Sabotage...



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events

- MEA CULPA presents Sam Shepard's *Cowboy Mouth*: Dec. 3, 20h, doors open at 19h, 10 Ontario St. W., studio 808. Admission is \$5. For reservations, call 849-9402.
- Dr. Rosamund Lewis of *Médécins Sans Frontiers* will be speaking about international health and the activities of her organization in Leacock 26 at 18h on Wednesday, Nov. 30. The event is sponsored by Medical Students for Social Responsibility and Osler Medical Aid Foundation.
- Bhopal, 10 Years After. Video screening of "Bhopal: A License to Kill" followed by an open discussion: November 29 at 18h, Thompson House, 3650 McTavish. For more information, call 987-1359 or 281-6943. Organized by the Indian Progressive Study Group of Montréal.
- McGill Health Services and Peer Education present World AIDS Day. Thursday Dec. 1. Ben, a person living with AIDS, will speak about his experiences at 11h45. Prizes games and community groups. Shatner 107/108, 10h-15h.
- Lecture on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide. Friday, Dec. 2, 12h30, Art 160. Thérèse Lavoie-Roux, vice-chairperson, Canadian Senate Special Committee on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide.
- The Commedia dell'Arte Students in the Department of Italian present "Il Fido Amico", ("The Faithful Friend") on Nov. 29 at 20h in Leacock 132. Everyone welcome at no charge. Lots of fun.
- DC Books, DLI Productions and the Montréal Memorial Holocaust Centre cordially invite you to the book launch of *The Aftermath* by Henry Lilienheim on Dec. 1 from 18h to 21h at the McGill University Faculty Club, 3450 McTavish. The author will be present for book signings. Refreshments will be served and there will be a video screening of the film, *Dark Lullabies* at 19h30. For more information, call Judith Kenyeres at 271-7040.
- The Tall Club of Montréal is meeting on Nov. 30 at 19h at the restaurant "le Commensal" 2115 St. Denis (near Sherbrooke).
- Shackled by pre-finals stress? Amnesty International's having a holiday party! Come with food or without, 18h30, Shatner 435.
- Lesbian and Gay Employees of McGill (LAGEM) are meeting at 17h30 at Thompson House on Nov. 28.

SENATE BRIEFS

Staff hiring and firing

At the last Senate meeting, McGill Association of University Teachers (MAUT) President Patrick Glenn asked VP Academic Bill Chan why replacement staff was not being hired to fill academic staff position openings. Chan stated that he expects a reduction in hiring for the 94-95 academic year despite the new positions being opened up.

Sexual harassment assessors' report

Physical therapy professor Patricia Wells presented the annual report of the sexual harassment assessors. The report noted that there was a 17 per cent reduction in cases from last year, and an improvement in educational programs for departmental staff.

Student conduct code: cruising right along

Senate approved revisions to the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures proposed by Dean of Students Irwin Gopnik. There were seven amendments proposed, including four from students, but all seven were defeated. These are some of the code topics that were discussed:

Plagiarism

This section of the Code reversed the burden of proof to the accused, so that the accused must prove her/his innocence. Faculty of Arts

Right to lawyer

Right now, only advisors from the McGill community can attend disciplinary hearings, so as to prevent disciplinary hearings from turning into courtrooms.

At the meeting, Senator Toope advocated an end to the inside counsel. He proposed to exclude Faculty of Law professors from becoming advisors for the hearings.

Senator Waller extended Toope's idea by proposing to prevent Faculty of Law students from becoming advisors so as to protect innocent deans from savvy third year law students. Both amendments failed.

Illegally obtained evidence

This amendment will allow the inclusion of evidence that has been obtained "illegally" into disciplinary hearings. VP Small stated that during her discussions with Dean Gopnik, it was decided that evidence must be acquired "in good faith".

Senator Wong, however, was not pleased with this addition. He proposed that the code exclude evidence "obtained in contravention to the policies and procedures set out by the University."

When asked if this would not satisfy the problems from both factions, Gopnik said: "I don't know what these policies are." Senate narrowly defeated the student senator's proposed amendment to this section.

— Max Francisco and Arnold Kwok